



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
1600 EAST LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

March 4, 2013

Mr. Eric W. Olson, Site Vice President
Entergy Operations, Inc.
River Bend Station
5485 US Highway 61
St. Francisville, LA 70775

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR RIVER BEND STATION
(REPORT 05000458/2012801)

Dear Mr. Olson:

On February 13, 2013, the NRC completed its end-of-cycle performance review of River Bend Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined the performance at River Bend Station during the most recent quarter was within the Regulatory Response Column of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because, during the second quarter of 2012, the Scrams with Complications Performance Indicator crossed the Green-White threshold. The performance indicator returned to Green at the end of the fourth quarter of 2012. On November 15, 2012, the NRC completed a supplemental inspection using Inspection Procedure 95001, "Supplemental Inspection for One or Two White Inputs in a Strategic Performance Area." Based on the results of the inspection, and the current performance indicator value, the NRC determined that River Bend Station would return to the Licensee Response Column at the end of this assessment period. Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

In our assessment letter dated March 5, 2012, (ML 120610414), the NRC identified a cross-cutting theme in the Safety Conscious Work Environment component of Environment for Raising Concerns. Specifically, that theme consisted of issuance of a Confirmatory Order dated August 22, 2011, that involved discrimination. The cross-cutting aspect was related to behavior and actions that encourage free flow of information related to raising nuclear safety issues such that personnel raise nuclear safety issues without fear of retaliation [S.1(a)]. At that time, the NRC determined that a substantive cross-cutting issue associated with S.1(a) did not exist because the NRC did not have concerns with the actions you committed to take to address the theme. The actions described in the Confirmatory Order were scheduled to be completed by December 31, 2012. The NRC plans to perform additional inspections to verify your implementation of these actions. The NRC will continue to monitor your staff's effort and progress in addressing the theme until the Confirmatory Order actions are complete and the theme criteria no longer exist.

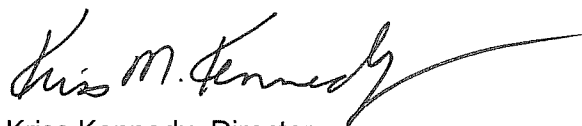
The NRC also identified a cross-cutting theme in the work practices component of the human performance area. Specifically, the NRC identified four findings associated with procedural compliance because you did not define and effectively communicate expectations regarding procedural compliance [H.4(b)]. After the NRC had identified three findings with an H.4(b) cross-cutting aspect, you initiated a condition report to determine the common cause of those findings and initiate corrective actions. Following the fourth finding with an H.4(b) cross-cutting aspect during this assessment period, you initiated another condition report and developed additional corrective actions to specifically address human performance. Because of the actions you have taken to address human performance issues, the NRC does not have a concern with either the scope of efforts or your progress in addressing the cross-cutting theme in H.4(b). Therefore, although a cross-cutting theme exists in H.4(b), the NRC determined that a substantive cross-cutting issue does not exist. The NRC will continue to monitor your staff's efforts and progress in addressing this theme until the theme criterion is no longer met.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through June 30, 2014. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's Rules of Practice, a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact David Proulx at 817-200-1144 with any questions you may have regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kriss M. Kennedy", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kriss Kennedy, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-458
License No. NPF-47

Enclosure:
River Bend Station Inspection/Activity Plan

River Bend

Inspection / Activity Plan

03/01/2013 - 06/30/2014

| Unit Number | Planned Dates Start End | Inspection Activity | Title | No. of Staff on Site |
|-------------|----------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|
| 1 | 03/01/2012 06/30/2013 | 2515/182 - DEGRADATION UNDERGROUND PIPING (PHASE 1) | Review of the Implementation of the Industry Initiative to Control Degradation of Underground Piping | 2 |
| 1 | 01/01/2013 12/31/2013 | 2515/187 - NTTF FLOODING WALKDOWNS | Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Flooding Walkdowns | 2 |
| 1 | 01/01/2013 12/31/2013 | 2515/188 - NTTF SEISMIC WALKDOWNS | Inspection of Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.3 Seismic Walkdowns | 2 |
| 1 | 02/25/2013 03/01/2013 | PSB2-ISI - INSERVICE INSPECTION | Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR | 1 |
| 1 | 02/25/2013 03/01/2013 | PSB2-RP - RADIATION SAFETY | Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls | 2 |
| 1 | 02/25/2013 03/01/2013 | IP 71124.01 | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls | |
| 1 | 02/25/2013 03/01/2013 | IP 71151-OR01 | Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness | |
| 1 | 02/25/2013 03/01/2013 | IP 71151-PR01 | RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent | |
| 1 | 04/15/2013 04/19/2013 | EB2-05T - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION | Fire Protection [Triennial] | 4 |
| 1 | 04/29/2013 05/03/2013 | IP 7111105T | Fire Protection [Triennial] | |
| 1 | 04/15/2013 04/19/2013 | EP-2 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS | Drill/Exercise Performance | 1 |
| 1 | 04/15/2013 04/19/2013 | IP 71151-EP01 | ERO Drill Participation | |
| 1 | 04/15/2013 04/19/2013 | IP 71151-EP02 | Alert & Notification System | |
| 1 | 04/15/2013 04/19/2013 | IP 71151-EP03 | Alert & Notification System | |
| 1 | 04/15/2013 04/19/2013 | EP1 - BIENNIAL PROGRAM INSPECTION | Alert and Notification System Testing | 1 |
| 1 | 04/15/2013 04/19/2013 | IP 7111402 | Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System | |
| 1 | 04/15/2013 04/19/2013 | IP 7111403 | Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies | |
| 1 | 06/10/2013 06/28/2013 | PI&R 52B - BIENNIAL PI&R | Problem Identification and Resolution | 5 |
| 1 | 11/18/2013 11/22/2013 | PSB2-RP - RADIATION SAFETY | Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation | 4 |
| 1 | 11/18/2013 11/22/2013 | IP 71124.05 | Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment | |
| 1 | 11/18/2013 11/22/2013 | IP 71124.06 | Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program | |
| 1 | 11/18/2013 11/22/2013 | IP 71124.07 | Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation | |
| 1 | 03/17/2014 03/21/2014 | RS24 - RADIATION SAFETY | Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls | 2 |
| 1 | 03/17/2014 03/21/2014 | IP 71124.02 | Occupational Dose Assessment | |

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.

This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.